

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Douglas E. McKinley Jr. (registration no. 40,280) on December 02, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

Non-elected claims 23-28 and 32 have been cancelled.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for extracting and converting data in a computer system from one or more information sources into a common format, comprising:
 - receiving said information sources in a computer system;
 - receiving at least one pattern descriptor selected from a graphical user interface;
 - receiving one or more templates, each of said templates having said at least one pattern descriptor;
 - applying said one or more templates to said information sources;
 - generating said data in a common format by parsing said information sources with a universal parsing agent that utilizes said one or more templates; and
 - storing said data in said common format.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein after storing said data in said common format, said method further comprises communicating said data to an application configured to process said common format.
3. (Orginal) The method of claim 2 wherein said application is a database application.
4. (Orginal) The method of claim 1 wherein said common format for said structured data is a Extensible Markup Language (XML) format.
5. (Orginal) The method of claim 1 wherein before receiving said one or more templates, said method further comprises,
generating said one or more templates by selecting a file from said information sources, and
having a user select one or more pattern descriptors to describe said file.
6. (Orginal) The method of claim 5 further comprising permitting said user to define said one or more pattern descriptors.
7. (Orginal) The method of claim 1 wherein before receiving said one or more templates, said method further comprises permitting said user to select one or more templates from a template library.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said storing of said data in said common format is selected from a group of storage bins consisting of an input bin, a wait bin, an incomplete bin, and a complete bin.
9. (Previously Presented) A system for extracting and converting data from one or more information sources into a common format, comprising:

a memory configured to receive said information sources, said memory configured to store one or more templates wherein each of said templates has at least one pattern descriptor selected from a graphical user interface;

an input device configured to receive said at least one pattern descriptor from a user interacting with a graphical user interface;

a processor programmed to:

apply said one or more templates to said information sources;
generate said data in said common format by parsing said information sources with a universal parsing agent that utilizes said one or more templates; and
communicate said data in said common format.

10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9 wherein said processor is configured to communicate said data in said common format to an application configured to process said common format.

11. (Orginal) The system of claim 10 wherein said application is a database application.

12. (Orginal) The system of claim 9 wherein said common format for said structured data is a Extensible Markup Language (XML) format.

13. (Orginal) The system of claim 9 wherein said memory stores a template library from which a user can select one or more templates.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9 wherein said memory stores said data in said common format in a storage bin selected from a group of storage bins consisting of an input bin, a wait bin, and incomplete bin, and a complete bin.

15. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium encoded with a computer program having computer-executable instructions for performing a method for extracting and converting data from one or more information sources into a common format, comprising:

- receiving said information sources;
- receiving at least one pattern descriptor selected from a graphical user interface;
- receiving one or more templates, each of said templates having said at least one pattern descriptor;
- applying said one or more templates to said information sources;
- converting said data into said common format by parsing said information sources with a universal parsing agent that utilizes said one or more templates; and
- storing said data in said common format.

16. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium encoded with a computer program having computer-executable instructions for performing said method of claim 15 wherein after storing said data in said common format, said method further comprises communicating said data in said common format to an application configured to process said common format.

17. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium encoded with a computer program having computer-executable instructions for performing said method of claim 16 wherein said application is a database application.

18. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium encoded with a computer program having computer-executable instructions for performing said method of claim 15 wherein said common format for said structured data is a Extensible Markup Language (XML) format.

19. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium encoded with a computer program having computer-executable instructions for performing said method

of claim 15 wherein before receiving said one or more templates, said method further comprises,

generating said one or more templates by selecting a file from said plurality of information sources, and

having a user select one or more pattern descriptors to describe said file.

20. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium encoded with a computer program having computer-executable instructions for performing said method of claim 16 further comprising permitting said user to define said one or more pattern descriptors.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium encoded with a computer program having computer-executable instructions for performing said method of claim 15 wherein before receiving said one or more templates, said method further comprises permitting said user to select one or more templates from a template library.

22. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium encoded with a computer program having computer-executable instructions for performing said method of claim 15 wherein said storing of said data in said common format is selected from a group of storage bins consisting of an input bin, a wait bin, an incomplete bin, and a complete bin.

23. - 28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said information sources are selected from the group of structured information sources, semi-structured information sources, unstructured information sources and combinations thereof.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9 wherein said information sources are selected from the group of structured information sources, semi-structured information sources, unstructured information sources and combinations thereof.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium encoded with a computer program having computer-executable instructions for performing said method of claim 15 wherein information sources are selected from the group of structured information sources, semi-structured information sources, unstructured information sources and combinations thereof.

32. (Cancelled)

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
Applicant's arguments filed in the Appeal Brief are found persuasive. Regarding independent claim 1, the following limitation is not taught as claimed: "*receiving one or more templates, each of said templates having said at least one pattern descriptor; applying said one or more templates to said information sources; generating said data in a common format by parsing said information sources with a universal parsing agent that utilizes said one or more templates; and storing said data in said common format*".
The limitations of independent claims 9 and 15 parallel claim 1, therefore they are allowed for similar reasons. Claims 2-8, 10-14, 16-22 and 29-31 are allowed based on dependency.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Greta L. Robinson whose telephone number is (571)272-4118. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tony Mahmoudi can be reached on (571)272-4078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Greta L. Robinson/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2169
December 02, 2010